

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 IO-10 SP-02 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 SNM-02 SR-02 ORM-01 ABF-01

OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-02 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 /093 W

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P R 250910Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3559

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USUN NEW YORK 3703

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 4145

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, UNRWA, XF, UK, FR, EG

SUBJECT: ARAB FUNDING FOR UNRWA

REF: STATE 92850

1. POL/ECON COUNSELOR CALLED ON AMB FADEL (DIR INT'L ORG AFFAIRS, MFA) APR 24 TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL PLIGHT OF UNWRA. HE STRONGLY URGED EGYPT DO WHATEVER IT COULD TO ASSIST UNRWA, APRTICULARY IN VIEW OF SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION OF SERVICES AND DESTABILIZING EFFECT THIS WOULD HAVE ON SITUATION.

2. FADEL SAID GOE WAS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT FINANCIAL CONDITION OF UNWRA. HOWEVER HE WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC GOE COULD DO MUCH ABOUT FINANCIAL SITUATION ITSELF, SINCE EGYPT ALSO WAS HAVING ITS OWN PROBLEMS IN THIS SPHERE. HE SAID EGYPT ALSO IS NOT IN POSITION TO DO MUCH TO INFLUENCE OTHER STATES IN THIS MATTER. OTHER NATIONS (AND HERE HE MEANT ARAB COUNTRIES) HAVE THIER OWN STRONG VIEWS ABOUT UNRWA AND WHAT SHOULD BE DONE TO
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DEAL WITH SITUATION. FADEL POINTED OUT THAT UNRWA WAS PROBLEM

FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS SUCH. WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY SAYING AS MUCH, THERE WAS IMPLICATION THAT PROBLEM HAD BEEN CREATED Y UN AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WHEN IT AGREED TO PARTITION PALESTINE IN FIRST PLACE.

3. FADEL CONCLUDED BY SAYING OGE WAS AWARE UNRWA WAS IN DIFFICULTY AND WOULD TRY TO DO WHAT IT COULD, BUT THIS NOT LIKELY BE MUCH UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES. FADEL SAID HE WOULD CALL EMBASSY'S APPROACH TO ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN GOE, PARTICULARLY AMB SIDKI WHO HANDLES PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS IN MFA.

4. EMBASSY HAS LERNED THAT BRITISH EMBOFF CALLED UPON AMB ZAKI, DIR WEST EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, ON APR 19 WITH VIEW TO URGING EGYPTIAN ACTION ON UNRWA IN ARAB LEAGUE. EMBOFF HAD TRIED TO SEE UNDERSEC GHAFAR OR AMB MEGUID (WHO HANDLES ARAB LEAGUE AFFAIRS FOR MFS) BUT ENDED UP SEEING ZAKI. BRITISH HAVE HEARD NOTHING FURTHER ABOUT THEIR APPROACH TO DATE. NOR DO THEY KNOW AT THIS POINT WHETHER SUBJECT OF UNRWA HAS BEEN RAISED IN ARAB LEAGUE MEETING.

5. FRENCH EMBASSY HAS NOT YET RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS ON MATTER.
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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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